

CLAIMS

I claim:

1. A cooking device for use with a cooking chamber of a barbecue grill, the cooking device comprising:

a curvilinear central portion having a cooking surface; and,

an annular flange extending from an outer edge of the central portion, the flange adapted to engage an inner surface of the cooking chamber and support the cooking device above a heat source positioned in a lower portion of the cooking chamber.

2. The cooking device of claim 1 further comprising at least one aperture in the flange wherein the aperture is adapted to permit a user to grasp the cooking device.

3. The cooking device of claim 1 further comprising at least one handle adapted to permit a user to grasp the cooking device.

4. The cooking device of claim 1 wherein the central portion has a generally flat bottom wall.

5. The cooking device of claim 1 including a top wall positioned radially outward of the central portion.

6. The cooking device of claim 1 wherein the annular flange is comprised of a plurality of flange segments extending radially outward relative to the central portion.

7. The cooking device of claim 1 wherein the annular flange extends radially outward relative to the central portion.

8. The cooking device of claim 5 wherein the top wall is positioned at a height above the flange, the height being adapted to permit the cooking chamber of the barbecue grill to be covered by a lid without interference by the cooking device.

9. A cooking device for use within a cooking chamber of a barbecue grill, the cooking device comprising:

a generally annular top wall;

a central portion recessed from the top wall, the central portion having a curvilinear cooking surface; and,

at least one flange extending from the top wall, the at least one flange adapted to engage an inner surface of the cooking chamber and support the cooking device in the cooking chamber.

10. The cooking device of claim 9 wherein the flange is a circumferential body including at least one aperture adapted to permit a user to grasp the cooking device.

11. The cooking device of claim 9 further comprising at least one handle adapted to permit a user to grasp the cooking device, the handle operably connected to the top wall.

12. The cooking device of claim 9 wherein the central portion has a generally flat bottom wall.

13. The cooking device of claim 9 wherein the top wall defines an uppermost surface of the cooking device, the uppermost surface being positioned at a height above the flange.

14. The cooking device of claim 13 wherein the uppermost surface is below an interference region thereby permitting the cooking chamber to receive a cover.

15. The cooking device of claim 9 wherein the at least one flange has an engaging surface adapted to mate with a support structure of the cooking chamber.

16. The cooking device of claim 15 wherein the top wall defines an uppermost surface of the cooking device, the uppermost surface being positioned at a height above the engaging surface.

17. The cooking device of claim 16 wherein the uppermost surface is below an interference height defined by a lid positioned over the cooking device thereby permitting the cooking chamber to receive a cover.

18. An outdoor cooking assembly comprising:
a barbecue grill assembly having a cooking chamber and a mating lid, the cooking chamber having a heat source positioned in a lower portion of the cooking chamber;

a cooking pan removably positioned within the cooking chamber, the cooking pan having a curvilinear central portion with a cooking surface, the cooking pan having a flange extending from an outer edge of the central portion, the flange having an engaging surface; and,

at least one support member positioned on an inner surface of the cooking chamber, the support member adapted to engage a portion of the engaging surface to support the cooking pan.

19. The outdoor cooking assembly of claim 18 further comprising at least one aperture in the flange, the aperture adapted to permit a user to grasp the cooking pan.

20. The outdoor cooking assembly of claim 18 wherein the engagement of the flange and the support member forms a cavity in the cooking chamber.

21. The outdoor cooking assembly of claim 20 wherein the cavity is generally bounded by the heat source and the cooking pan.

22. The outdoor cooking assembly of claim 18 wherein the support member is a ledge extending inward from the inner surface of the cooking chamber.

23. The outdoor cooking assembly of claim 18 wherein the support member is a tab extending inward from the inner surface of the cooking chamber.

24. An outdoor cooking assembly comprising:
a barbecue grill assembly having a cooking chamber and a mating lid, the

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cooking chamber having a heat source positioned in a lower portion of the cooking chamber;

at least one support member extending inward from an inner surface of the cooking chamber; and,

a cooking pan removably positioned within the cooking chamber, the cooking pan having a curvilinear central portion with a cooking surface, the cooking pan having means for engaging the support member to support the cooking pan, the engaging means extending from an outer edge of the central portion.

25. The outdoor cooking assembly of claim 24 wherein the engaging means includes at least one aperture, the aperture adapted to permit a user to grasp the cooking pan.

26. The outdoor cooking assembly of claim 24 wherein the engaging means is positioned below a rim of the cooking chamber.

27. The outdoor cooking assembly of claim 24 wherein the engaging means includes an engaging surface, the engaging surface positioned below a rim of the cooking chamber.

28. The outdoor cooking assembly of claim 24 wherein a rim of the cooking chamber defines a perimeter, the cooking pan positioned entirely within the perimeter.

29. The outdoor cooking assembly of claim 24 wherein the cooking pan does not extend beyond a perimeter defined by a rim of the cooking chamber.

30. A cooking device for use within a cooking chamber of a barbecue grill, the cooking chamber having a rim defining a perimeter, the cooking device comprising:

a curvilinear central portion having a cooking surface; and,

a generally annular flange extending radially from an outer edge of the central portion, the flange having at least one engaging surface adapted to engage an inner surface of the cooking chamber and support the cooking device in the cooking chamber, the at least one engaging surface defining a perimeter which is less than the perimeter of

the cooking chamber.

31. The cooking device of claim 30 wherein the flange has at least one aperture adapted to permit a user to grasp the cooking device.

32. The cooking device of claim 30 wherein the central portion has a generally flat bottom wall.

33. The cooking device of claim 30 wherein the flange is comprised of a plurality of flange segments extending radially from the outer edge of the central portion.

34. The cooking device of claim 30 wherein the flange is entirely within the perimeter of the cooking chamber when the cooking device is positioned in the cooking chamber.

35. The cooking device of claim 30 wherein no portion of the flange extends past the perimeter of the cooking chamber when the cooking device is positioned in the cooking chamber.

36. A cooking device for use within a cooking chamber of a barbecue grill, the cooking device comprising:

a curvilinear central portion having a cooking surface; and,

a generally annular flange extending radially from an outer edge of the central portion, the flange having at least one engaging surface adapted to engage an inner surface of the cooking chamber and exclusively support the cooking device in the cooking chamber.

37. The cooking device of claim 36 wherein the flange has at least one aperture adapted to permit a user to grasp the cooking device.

38. The cooking device of claim 36 wherein the central portion has a generally flat bottom wall.

39. The cooking device of claim 36 wherein the flange is comprised of a plurality of flange segments extending radially from the outer edge of the central portion.

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